

CLAIMS

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A split nut comprising:
 - a) a first semi-annular member;
 - b) a second semi-annular member having an internal threaded portion;
 - c) a third semi-annular member having an internal threaded portion, said third semi-annular member being positioned between said first and second semi-annular members; and
a hinge connecting the first, second and third semi-annular members together wherein said first, second, and third semi-annular members are capable of rotating about a common axis.
2. The split nut of claim 1, wherein the first and second semi-annular members have a notch, the notches being capable of coupling with one another such that the first, second, and third semi-annular members can be secured to one another in a closed position forming an annular member.
3. The split nut of claim 1, wherein the hinge connecting all first, second, and third semi-annular members is a pin member.
4. The split nut of claim 3, wherein said pin member is welded to one of said first or second semi-annular members.
5. The split nut of claim 4, wherein the first or second semi-annular member is capable of lateral movement along the length of the pin member.

6. The split nut of claim 1, wherein the internal threaded portion of the third semi-annular member extends beyond an upper or lower surface of the third semi-annular member.

7. The split nut of claim 1, wherein a height of both said first and third semi-annular members equals a height of said second semi-annular member.

8. The split nut of claim 1 wherein an inner circumference of the split nut comprises at least two opposing threaded portions extending along an entire height of the split nut when said first, second, and third semi-annular members are in a closed position which forms an annular member.

9. A split nut comprising:

- a) a first semi-annular member having an opening therethrough near one end and a notch therein at an opposite end;
- b) a third semi-annular member having an opening therethrough near one end and an internal threaded portion wherein said threaded portion extends beyond an upper or lower surface of said second member;
- c) a second semi-annular member having an opening therethrough near one end, a notch therein at an opposite end, and an internal threaded portion; and
- d) a pin member inserted through the opening as contained in said first, second, and third members.

10. The split nut of claim 9 wherein outermost heights of said first and third members added together equal a height of the second member.

11. The split nut of claim 9 wherein the notch in the first member is coupled with the notch in the second member to hold the first, second and third members in a closed position.

12. The split nut of claim 11 wherein an inner circumference of the split nut comprises at least two opposing threaded portions extending along an entire height of the split nut.

13. The split nut of claim 9 wherein the internal threaded portion extending beyond the upper or lower surface of said third member is shorter in length than said threaded portion not extending beyond the upper or lower surface.

14. The split nut of claim 9 wherein an inner portion of said first member fits about the threaded portion of the third member extending beyond the upper or lower surface of the third member when the split nut is in a closed position.

15. The split nut of claim 9 wherein an end of said third member located opposite the opening in said third member fits beneath the notch in the second member when the split nut is in a closed position.

16. The split nut of claim 9 wherein said pin member is welded to one of said first or second members.

17. A split nut comprising:

a) a first semi-annular member having a first end with a notch contained therein, a second end with a notch contained therein, an internal threaded portion, and openings contained in those portions of the first and second ends that are located on opposite sides of the notches;

- b) a second semi-annular member having a first end with a protrusion, a second end with a protrusion, an internal threaded portion, and at least one opening contained through each of said protrusions such that said openings in said protrusions are in alignment with the openings in said notches when the protrusions of the second member are fitted within the notches of the first member;
- c) a first pin member for insertion through the opening contained in the first ends of the first and second members; and
- d) a second pin member for insertion through the openings contained in the second ends of the first and second members.

18. The split nut of claim 17 wherein the first pin member is secured to the first member or second member such that the non-secured member is capable of rotating about the pin member.

19. The split nut of claim 17 wherein an inner circumference of the split nut comprises at least two opposing threaded portions extending along an entire height of the nut when in a closed position.